

VIA: AIR
(SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH)

D. ATCH NO. SGAA-13519

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CLASSIFICATION

TO : Chief, SE
Attn: C
FROM : C
SUBJECT: GENERAL— ORHUNT/FRIDAY

DATE: 10 January 1955

SPECIFIC— FRIDAY Mission Progress Report
14 December - 27 December 1954

REF: SGAA 13206, KAPOK 3092, 17 December 1954

Action Requested: None. For Headquarters' information and files.

Synopsis:

1. RNDOLLAR and AIRBRED were brought to Athens for staging on 15 December.
2. AIRBRED refused the mission on grounds of ill health.
3. AIRBLOWN was substituted for AIRBRED at the eleventh hour.
4. Team infiltrated the evening of 21 December and exfiltrated in the early morning of 22 December.
5. The penetration was a failure as nothing was found at the site of the dead drop.
6. AIRBRED was separated from KUBARK and removed to an island for security reasons.
7. RNDOLLAR is to be polygraphed soon.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES/METHOD/EXEMPTION 3028
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

Account of Developments:

1. December 14:

- a. As C previously reported, C and C met with GADRIVEN and outlined plans for the mounting of FRIDAY. The meeting was a harmonious one despite existing unpleasantness that day over the Cyprus question. C was informed that AIRPATE would be assigned the task of conducting the team to the border. GADRIVEN expressed concern over dogs in the target area but belittled our anxiety over the presence of shepherds and dogs in the "strip" northwest of Skala through which the FRIDAY party travels.

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JOB # *63-69718*
Box: *1* Fold: *1*

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per 6000 10-19

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b. [] made arrangements with [] for the movement of RNDOLLAR and AIRBRED to Athens from Kalamai.

2. December 15:

a. RNDOLLAR and AIRBRED arrived in Athens and were taken to Annapolis house where ATDRUGGET had been installed to care for them.

b. [], [] and [] carried the clothing and equipment to Annapolis and had a preliminary discussion with the team regarding the mission.

c. AIRBRED announced at the first opportunity that he was suffering from appendicitis and could not possibly go on a mission in his condition. He produced the written diagnosis of a Kalamai doctor to the effect he had mild appendicitis. He added that the doctor had advised him to have his appendix removed immediately. When it became evident that AIRBRED was really serious about his condition and his decision to remain behind, [] was called in to examine the man. After [] had finished looking AIRBRED over he asked that a blood count be taken so that he could make a more thorough diagnosis.

3. December 16:

a. [] took AIRBRED to Athens for a blood count.

b. [] went to Annapolis with the intention of presenting a short refresher to the team on weapons and night marching. He found AIRBRED still convinced that he was seriously ill, although his pains had all disappeared.

c. AIRBRED was asked by [] to go along with preparations for the mission for the time being in hopes that he would pull himself together. [] also told RNDOLLAR that the office would regard the elimination of AIRBRED as an asset to the mission. If he, RNDOLLAR, was intent on having this companion, however, it would behoove him to use his influence to that end. RNDOLLAR retorted that he would do his best but that in any case he could not go alone.

4. December 17:

a. [] reported that no symptoms of appendicitis were discernable in his examination or in the results of the blood count. AIRBRED was informed of this but insisted he had the affliction regardless of the doctor's findings.

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b. and briefed the team on the use of anti-dog devices and the characteristics of trained dogs.

5. December 18:

a. AIRBRED was approached for the last time on the subject of accepting the mission. He admitted to the fact that his pains were all gone but continued to profess that he was physically incapable of accomplishing an operational task. Having used all possible persuasion on the man in vain, we acceded to his decision and immediately removed him to the "Dig" safehouse apartment in Athens.

b. Upon the departure of AIRBRED, the subject of a singleton mission was again broached to RNDOLLAR. In an interview that lasted over an hour we were unable to snake RNDOLLAR from his determination to have someone accompany him. We decided to suspend our efforts when RNDOLLAR showed signs of becoming extremely perturbed. As an alternative to a singleton mission, RNDOLLAR agreed to accept our decision on the selection of a man to accompany him.

c. In anticipation of this development we had previously arranged for AIRBLOWN to stand by in Athens. He was called in and offered the assignment in general terms. AIRBLOWN immediately and unquestioningly accepted the proposition and was taken to Annapolis in the early afternoon to join RNDOLLAR. He was equipped the same day.

6. December 19: and picked up RNDOLLAR and AIRBLOWN in a 1 1/2 ton stake truck and began the drive north to the Emin Aza rendezvous point. The night was spent at a camp site south of Arta.

7. December 20: The team received its final briefing during the truck trip from the campsite to the Emin Aza rendezvous. Rendezvous was made at 1025 hours and the team delivered to AIRRATE who had been accompanied by (s report on his preparations in Ioannina for the FRIDAY penetration will be forwarded in a JAN report.) and returned to Athens with the truck upon completion of the transfer. (Events from the time of the transfer this date to the return of FRIDAY to the "Dig" for debriefing on 22 December are covered in the attached memo and the debriefing which is forwarded separately.)

8. December 22: AIRBRED was transferred to Annapolis house prior to the arrival of FRIDAY to the "Dig." discussed plans for moving him to the Island of Paros with

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9. December 25:

a. [] and [] each debriefed both team members separately giving us four accounts of the penetration to compare and contrast. This debriefing with pertinent comment is forwarded separately.

b. AIRBRED was given a full security debriefing by [] and []. He was paid off and made to sign the documents separating him from KUBARK. He seemed embarrassed by his refusal to infiltrate and worried about what the future held in store. He was resigned to his fate, however, and if he had any rancor for his employers he managed to conceal it well. We hope that his ultimate disposal through USEP channels will be possible within a reasonable length of time.

10. December 26:

a. AIRBLOWN was released from the "Dig" and returned to his two colleagues AIPUP and AIRWAY. He had told them when he left on the 18th of December that he was going to be used as an interpreter by the office for a week or so. His story was carefully discussed with him again before he left the "Dig."

b. AIRBRED was delivered to the appropriate Greek authorities and was then conducted to Paros. [] gave him a final check-up prior to his departure and pronounced him fit to travel.

11. December 27: RNDOLLAR was returned to Kalamai to await preparations for his LCFLUTTER.

12. Comments:

a. This account will be supplemented by a progress report covering the period 28 December through 14 January in order to preserve the continuity of our reporting system.

b. We are holding final analysis of this operation until we have the results of RNDOLLAR's impending LCFLUTTER.

Attachment: Memo

RMW
RMM/RSO/JLK/nkr

7 January 1955

Distribution:

3 - Wash w/att in trip

1 - Chrono w/att

1 - XO w/att

2 - OBOPUS w/att in dupl (1 ret.)

[]

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27 December 1954

MEMORANDUM

TO: []

FROM: []

SUBJECT: Friday Team Operation of 21-22 December 1954
Conducting of Team to the Border

1. At 1035 hours of 20 December, Friday Team, escorted by [] and [] arrived in the operational vehicle A-839 at the RV point of Emin Aga.

The conducting party was duly met at the prearranged point by a covered KYP vehicle escorted by [] and [].

AIR RATE

During an ensuing meeting [] and the Captain confirmed that the strip of land between the points of Skala and Kato Aetos was occupied by Greek shepherds, thus rendering any secure approach to the border highly problematical.

A possibility of access to the infiltration point via the Greek Guard Post of Arkoudi, as presented by the Captain, was dropped since the terrain is unsuitable for a proper and cautious approach to the borderline.

As a result of this meeting, it was arranged that the team would be conducted to point Ayioi Theodoroi via the coast.

2. The Team and [] were subsequently transferred to the covered KYP vehicle which left immediately for Ioannina. On arrival at the town, [] was discharged in a secure spot and the vehicle continued its way to Filiates.

The party arrived there at dusk of the same day. The Captain reported to the Battalion G2 to collect any last minute intelligence and a guide. During this time [] and the Team remained in the covered truck.

The truck resumed its course towards Skala but stopped at the road juncture of Smerto since the road from there on is observed by the Albanian post of Likojanit.

After a march of approximately two hours the party arrived at Skala where the officer in command of the post was waiting.

3. The conducting party, now consisting of the Team, AIR RATE, the Skala Post Lieutenant, [], and a KYP soldier, resumed its march to the border along the coastline at 2300 hours of 20 December.

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per CSM 43-43

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After a somewhat delayed march of three hours, necessitated by the Team's exhaustion and various attempts to circumvent shepherds and their attacking dogs, the conducting party arrived at Point R413532 where the remaining night was spent.

4. At dawn the team escorted by the Lieutenant surveyed the plain of Monispol from point R417536. On completion of the survey the party remained hiding throughout the day.

Notwithstanding certain precautions, the hideout was discovered by the shepherds who surrounded and challenged the party. After due intervention they returned to their pastoral duties.

5. Around noon, RMDOLIAR expressed once again his concern about the Albanian border post of Skembi (R403553) and implied that he would hesitate to infiltrate unless he got definite information on Albanian activities at this point.

The Greek Lieutenant therefore proceeded to a point in the vicinity of Pyramid 72 from where he was able to ascertain that the post was deserted and the building neglected.

6. At 1735, 21 December, Friday Team was conducted through the shepherd's compound. (The Lieutenant had previously ordered the shepherds to keep their dogs tied up.) At point R407541 at 1740 hours the Team separated from the conducting detail.

7. The team returned at 0200 hours of 22 December (see debriefings). After a three hour rest the party returned along the same route to Skala and was driven from there to the airfield of Ioannina.

The team and [] escorted by [] were flown to Athens and subsequently moved to the "Dig" for debriefing.

8. Conclusions:

- a. Overland infiltrations between points Arkoudi and Kato Aetos are not recommended while Greek shepherds occupy the area (winter pastures).
- b. [] would have discontinued the operation if the mission were not of one night's duration because of the activity in the area.
- c. Operations of this sort and at this time of the year can be secure if conducted with maritime support (specifically, the ravine at R393540 is particularly suitable).
- d. The Team's marching abilities were poor.
- e. KYP cooperation was very good

9. Border Intelligence:

- a. The Albanian post of Skembi is deserted.
- b. There is a long and broad plowed strip at points R395552 to R397552.

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